

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A fitting for attaching ENT tubing to a surface comprising:
a molded plastic body having an inverted generally cup-like configuration;
said body having a peripheral [[body]] wall and an endwall forming an internal cavity
with having a bottom opening;

an attachment flange extending outwardly from said peripheral [[body]] wall around said
bottom opening, said flange having a plane outer surface and having a plurality of fastener
receiving holes therethrough spaced around said opening;

said plane outer surface of said attachment flange being at one terminal end of said fitting
and said end wall being at a generally opposite terminal end of said fitting;

said plane outer surface of said attachment flange being positionable against a plane
support surface for attaching the fitting to the support surface;

a socket extending through said endwall into said cavity for receiving an end portion of
an ENT tube;

said socket having a socket wall that is surrounded by said cavity and with said peripheral
wall in outwardly-spaced surrounding relationship to said socket wall;

said socket having a longitudinal socket axis intersecting said bottom opening;
said socket wall having a generally cylindrical entrance portion extending over a portion of the
axial length of said socket;

said socket wall having a plurality of circumferentially-spaced resilient fingers extending from said generally cylindrical entrance portion over the remaining length of said socket wall;
[[and]]

said fingers ~~being inclined inwardly toward said socket axis and having finger inner surfaces that lie on the surface of a cone.~~ terminal ends spaced from said bottom opening; and

said cavity, said socket and said peripheral wall being configured to provide insertion of an ENT tube into and through said socket past said finger terminal ends into engagement with a support surface that covers said bottom opening when said plane outer surface of said attachment flange rests against the support surface.

2. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 1 wherein said fingers are more than three in number ~~have terminal ends~~ and include at least one generally opposed pair of [[said]] fingers [[have]] having radially inwardly extending teeth thereon adjacent said terminal ends thereof.

3. (original) The fitting of claim 2 wherein said teeth are spaced toward said socket entrance opening from said finger terminal ends.

4. (original) The fitting of claim 3 wherein said teeth have smoothly rounded tooth end portions facing toward said socket axis.

Claims 5 and 6 (cancelled).

7. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 1 wherein said bottom opening is circular and has a central axis, said peripheral ~~[[body]]~~ wall having a generally frustoconical shape, and said socket axis being generally coincidental with said central axis of said bottom opening. ~~[[axis]]~~

8. (original) The fitting of claim 1 wherein said socket axis extends at an angle of 45° to the plane of said flange plane outer surface.

9. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 1 wherein said fingers are more than three in number ~~have terminal ends~~ and are separated by generally V-shaped spaces that increase in width from said generally cylindrical entrance portion to said finger terminal ends so that said fingers gradually decrease in circumferential width in a direction from said generally cylindrical entrance portion to said finger terminal ends.

10. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 1 wherein said end ~~[[body]]~~ wall is generally ~~[[has a]] flat wall portion and said socket extends into said cavity through said flat wall portion~~

11. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 1 wherein said fingers are more than three in number ~~have terminal ends~~ and only two generally opposed ones of said fingers have radially inwardly extending teeth thereon adjacent said finger terminal ends.

12. (currently amended) A fitting for attaching ENT tubing to a surface comprising:

a molded plastic body having an inverted generally cup-like configuration;

said body having a generally frustoconical peripheral wall terminating in an endwall and forming an internal cavity having a generally circular bottom opening;

an attachment flange extending outwardly from said body wall around said bottom opening, said flange having a plane outer surface and having a plurality of fastener receiving holes therethrough spaced around said opening;

a socket extending through said endwall into said cavity for receiving an end portion of an ENT tube;

said socket having a socket wall that is surrounded by said cavity and with said peripheral wall in outwardly-spaced surrounding relationship to said socket wall;

said socket and said bottom opening having coincidental axes;

said socket wall having a generally cylindrical entrance portion extending over a portion of the axial length of said socket;

said socket wall having a plurality of circumferentially-spaced resilient fingers extending from said generally cylindrical entrance portion over the remaining length of said socket; [[and]]

said fingers being inclined inwardly toward said socket axis and having finger inner surfaces that lie on the surface of a cone;[[.]]

said fingers having finger terminal ends spaced from said bottom opening; and

said cavity, said socket and said peripheral wall being configured to provide insertion of an ENT tube into and through said socket past said finger terminal ends into engagement with a support surface that covers said bottom opening when said plane outer surface of said attachment flange rests against the support surface.

13. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 12 wherein said fingers are more than three in number ~~have terminal ends~~ and include at least one generally opposed pair of [[said]] fingers [[have]] having radially inwardly extending teeth thereon adjacent said terminal ends thereof.

14. (original) The fitting of claim 13 wherein said teeth are spaced toward said socket entrance opening from said finger terminal ends.

Claims 15 and 16 (cancelled).

17. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 12 wherein said fingers ~~have terminal ends and~~ are separated by generally V-shaped spaces that increase in width from said generally cylindrical entrance portion to said finger terminal ends so that said fingers gradually decrease in circumferential width in a direction from said generally cylindrical entrance portion to said finger terminal ends.

18. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 12 wherein said fingers are more than three in number ~~have terminal ends~~ and only two generally opposed ones of said fingers have radially inwardly extending teeth thereon adjacent said finger terminal ends.

19. (currently amended) A fitting for attaching ENT tubing to a surface comprising:

- a molded plastic body having an inverted generally cup-like configuration;
- said body having a peripheral ~~[[body]]~~ wall and an endwall forming an internal cavity

with having a generally rectangular bottom opening;

- an attachment flange extending outwardly from said peripheral ~~[[body]]~~ wall around said bottom opening, said flange having a plane outer surface and having a plurality of fastener receiving holes therethrough spaced around said opening;
- a socket extending through said wall into said cavity for receiving an end portion of an ENT tube;

said socket having a socket wall that is surrounded by said cavity and with said peripheral wall in outwardly-spaced surrounding relationship to said socket wall;

- said socket having a longitudinal socket axis that is inclined to the plane in which said plane outer surface of said flange lies and intersects said bottom opening;
- said socket having a generally cylindrical entrance portion extending over a portion of the axial length of said socket;
- said socket having a plurality of circumferentially-spaced resilient fingers extending from said generally cylindrical entrance portion over the remaining length of said socket; ~~[[and]]~~
- said fingers being inclined inwardly toward said socket axis and having finger inner surfaces that lie on the surface of a cone; ~~[[.]]~~

said fingers having finger terminal ends spaced from said bottom opening; and

said cavity, said socket and said peripheral wall being configured to provide insertion of an ENT tube into and through said socket and past said finger terminal ends into engagement

with a support surface that covers said bottom opening when said plane outer surface of said attachment flange rests against the support surface.

20. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 19 wherein said fingers are more than three in number ~~have terminal ends~~ and include at least one generally opposed pair of said fingers ~~[[have]]~~ having radially inwardly extending teeth thereon adjacent said terminal ends thereof.

21. (original) The fitting of claim 20 wherein said teeth are spaced toward said socket entrance opening from said finger terminal ends.

22. (original) The fitting of claim 21 wherein said teeth have smoothly rounded tooth end portions facing toward said socket axis.

23. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 19 wherein said socket axis extends at an angle of 45° to the plane of ~~said flange~~ said flange plane outer surface of said flange.

24. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 19 wherein said fingers are more than three in number ~~have terminal ends~~ and are separated by generally V-shaped spaces that increase in width from said generally cylindrical entrance portion to said finger terminal ends so that said fingers gradually decrease in circumferential width in a direction from said generally cylindrical entrance portion to said finger terminal ends.

25. (currently amended) The fitting of claim 12 wherein said fingers are more than three in number ~~have terminal ends~~ and only two generally opposed ones of said fingers have radially inwardly extending teeth thereon adjacent said finger terminal ends.

26. (new) A fitting for attaching ENT tubing to a surface comprising:
a molded plastic body having an inverted generally cup-like configuration;
said body having a body wall forming an internal cavity having a bottom opening;
an attachment flange extending outwardly from said body wall around said bottom opening, said flange having a plane outer surface and having a plurality of fastener receiving holes therethrough spaced around said opening;

a socket extending through said wall into said cavity for receiving an end portion of an ENT tube;

said socket having a longitudinal socket axis intersecting said bottom opening; said socket having a generally cylindrical entrance portion extending over a portion of the axial length of said socket;

said socket having a plurality of circumferentially-spaced resilient fingers extending from said generally cylindrical entrance portion over the remaining length of said socket;

said fingers being inclined inwardly toward said socket axis and having finger inner surfaces that lie on the surface of a cone;

said body wall having a wall internal surface defining said cavity;

at least one flat rib extending along said wall internal surface; and

said rib being graspable between pliers jaws at said bottom opening.

27. (new) The fitting of claim 26 wherein said rib is connected within said cavity to said generally cylindrical entrance portion of said socket.

28. (new) A fitting for attaching ENT tubing to a surface comprising:
a molded plastic body having an inverted generally cup-like configuration;
said body having a generally frustoconical peripheral wall terminating in an endwall and forming an internal cavity having a generally circular bottom opening;
an attachment flange extending outwardly from said body wall around said bottom opening, said flange having a plane outer surface and having a plurality of fastener receiving holes therethrough spaced around said opening;
a socket extending through said endwall into said cavity for receiving an end portion of an ENT tube;
said socket and said bottom opening having coincidental axes;
said socket having a generally cylindrical entrance portion extending over a portion of the axial length of said socket;
said socket having a plurality of circumferentially-spaced resilient fingers extending from said generally cylindrical entrance portion over the remaining length of said socket;
said fingers being inclined inwardly toward said socket axis and having finger inner surfaces that lie on the surface of a cone;
said body wall having a wall internal surface defining said cavity;
at least one flat rib extending along said wall internal surface; and
said rib being graspable between pliers jaws at said bottom opening.

29. (new) The fitting of claim 28 wherein said rib is connected within said cavity to said generally cylindrical entrance portion of said socket.

30. (new) A fitting for attaching ENT tubing to a surface comprising:
a molded plastic body having an inverted generally cup-like configuration;
said body having a body wall forming an internal cavity with a bottom opening;
an attachment flange extending outwardly from said body wall around said bottom opening, said flange having a plane outer surface that defines a terminal end of said fitting;
a socket extending through said body wall into said cavity for receiving an end portion of an ENT tube;

said plane outer surface of said attachment flange being securable against a support surface with said socket opening outwardly away from the support surface for receiving an end portion of an ENT tube and with the bottom opening being closed by the support surface;

said socket having a longitudinal socket axis intersecting said bottom opening;
said socket having a plurality of circumferentially-spaced resilient fingers extending into said cavity and having finger terminal ends spaced from said bottom opening;

said body wall being continuous and free of openings therethrough around said socket, including around said socket fingers, to preclude entry of poured concrete into said socket and said cavity through said body wall; and

said cavity, said body wall and said socket being configured to provide insertion of an ENT tube into and through said socket past said finger terminal ends into engagement with a support surface that overlies said bottom opening when said plane outer surface of said flange is positioned against the support surface for supporting the fitting thereon.

31. (new) The fitting of claim 30 wherein said body wall is configured within said cavity with at least one gripable projection that is accessible through said bottom opening and is gripable in pliers jaws for separating the fitting from a concrete mass.

32. (new) The fitting of claim 30 wherein said fingers include at least one generally opposed pair of fingers having inwardly extending teeth thereon adjacent said finger terminal ends, said socket having a socket entrance opening and said teeth being spaced toward said socket entrance opening from said finger terminal ends.

33. (new) The fitting of claim 30 wherein said body wall includes a generally flat body endwall through which said socket extends into said cavity.

34. (new) The fitting of claim 30 wherein said socket has a continuous and uninterrupted cylindrical entrance portion that is surrounded by said cavity with said body wall in outwardly-spaced surrounding relationship thereto, said fingers having finger inner surfaces that are inclined inwardly toward said socket axis in a direction from said cylindrical entrance portion toward said finger terminal ends, and said finger inner surfaces being curved to lie on the surface of a cone.

35. (new) The fitting of claim 30 wherein said body wall, said cavity and said socket are configured with said cavity surrounding said socket and with said body wall in outwardly-spaced surrounding relationship to said socket.